

## 7.0 DEFINITIONS

Acute Exposure: Either a single or short-term exposure to a compound.

Adsorption: Adhesion of a gas, liquid, or dissolved substance to a surface, such as the surface of a soil particle.

Archaeological Resource: means any material remains of past human life or activities including (but not limited to): pottery, basketry, bottles, weapons, weapon projectiles, arrowheads, tools, structures or portions of structures, pit houses, rock paintings, rock carvings, intaglios, graves, human skeletal materials, or any portion of the foregoing items at least 100 years of age. Defined by Section 4(a) of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act and 43 CFR Part 7.3.

Berm: A constructed rise at the edge of a road, or along a canal.

Beneficial Impact: An impact that has beneficial consequences.

Bioaccumulation: an increase in the concentration of a chemical in a biological organism over time, compared to the chemical's concentration in the environment.

Bioconcentration: The degree to which a chemical can be concentrated in the tissues of organisms.

Biodegradation: Capable of being decomposed by biological agents, especially bacteria or other microorganisms.

Brackish: Marine or estuarine water salinity between 0.5 and 30 parts per thousand, due to ocean-derived salts.

Cultural Resources: The physical remains, objects, historic records, and traditional lifeways that connect us to our nation's past.

Datum: A point, line, or surface used as a basis for measurement or calculation in mapping or surveying.

Dike: An embankment built along the shore of a sea or lake or beside a river to hold back the water and prevent flooding; a raised roadway across a swamp or body of water; a drainage ditch or other artificial watercourse

Endangered [species]: A species of animal or plant that is in danger of becoming extinct.

Epifauna: Animals that live on the surface of marine or freshwater sediment or mud.

Eradication: To destroy; to remove by the roots; exterminate.

Erosion: The gradual wearing away of rock or soil by physical breakdown, chemical solution, and transportation of material, as caused, for example, by water, wind, or ice.

Eustatic: Pertaining to world-wide changes of sea levels.

Evapotranspiration: The return of moisture to the air through evaporation from the soil and transpiration by plants

Exotic [species]: A species of animal or plant that is not indigenous to the region.

Hectare: A hectare is a metric unit of land measurement equal to 10,000 square meters or approximately 2.5 acres.

**Historic Property:** The term used to describe any prehistoric or historic district, site, building structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register. The term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to such properties. As a general guideline, and cultural resource should be at least 50 years old to be considered as a historic property.

**Identification Inventory or Field Survey (Cultural Resources):** This involves background research and in-field inspection of the area of potential effects (APE) to seek and record historic properties.

**Infauna:** Animals that burrow into marine or freshwater sediment and live beneath the mud surface.

**Introduced [species]:** Species of animals or plants intentionally or unintentionally released into an area or region where it is not indigenous. Introduced species may or may not become invasive once established.

**Invasive [species]:** Typically an exotic species of animal or plant that establishes and spreads over time, ultimately forming a population.

**Levee:** A natural embankment alongside a river, formed by sediment during times of flooding.

**Marsh:** A saturated, poorly drained area, intermittently or permanently covered with water; having aquatic and grass-like vegetation.

**Mean High Water:** The average height of the high waters of spring tides.

**Mean Low Water:** The average height of the low waters of spring tides.

**Mesic:** Moderately moist.

**Microorganism:** An organism of microscopic or submicroscopic size, especially a bacterium or protozoan.

**NGVD (National Geodetic Vertical Datum):** A “benchmark” elevation roughly equivalent to mean sea level.

**National Register Eligible:** A property that meets the National Register Criteria. for Section 106 purposes, an eligible property is treated as if it were already listed.

**No Effect (Cultural Resources):** When no effect is determined, the agency finds that the undertaking will have no effect on historic properties and notifies the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and interested persons of the findings. Unless the SHPO objects within 15 days of receiving such notice, the agency official is not required to take any further steps in the Section 106 process.

**Non-native:** Plants or animals originating in a part of the world other than where they are growing.

**Overbank:** Water flow over the top of the bank.

**Persistence:** Persistence is the length of time required for a chemical to degrade to the point where it can no longer be detected.

**pH:** The degree of acidity or alkalinity of a solution. Values from 0 to 7 indicate acidity, values from 7 to 14 indicate alkalinity.

**Population:** Any group of organisms capable of interbreeding and coexisting at the same time and in the same place.

Siltation: The filling-in of lakes and stream channels with soil particles, usually as a result of erosion on adjacent land.

Species: A fundamental category of taxonomic classification, ranking below a genus or subgenus and consisting of related organisms capable of interbreeding.

Stormwater: Rainfall that runs off roofs, roads and other surfaces where it flows into gutters, streams, rivers and creeks, and eventually into the bays. This water can carry contaminants such as plastic bags, detergents, nutrients and heavy metals.

Tailwater: The water surface immediately downstream from a dam.

Threatened [species]: A species of animal or plant that is rare and may become an endangered species in the near future.

Toxicity: The degree to which a substance is toxic; poisonous.

Turbidity: Having sediment or foreign particles stirred up or suspended; muddy, turbid water.